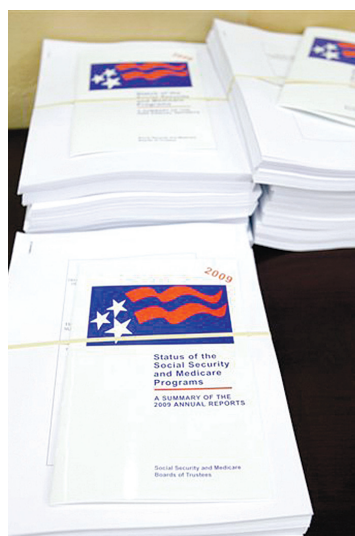


Price of a barrel of petroleum today:
US\$ 58.85[↑]

INSIDE TODAY
U.S. NEWS

SOCIAL INSECURITY



A summary of the 2009 annual reports sits on a table at the Treasury Department in Washington, Tuesday, May 12, 2009, following a news conference after the annual spring meeting of the Social Security and Medicare Trustees to discuss the financial situation of the Social Security and Medicare trust funds.

See **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

SPORTS NEWS

SWEPT AWAY



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James throws rosin into the air as part of his pre-game ritual before of Game 4 of the NBA Eastern Conference semifinals basketball playoffs against the Atlanta Hawks in Atlanta, Monday, May 11, 2009. Cleveland won 84-74 and swept the series 4-0.

See **Sports Today**

At Aruba's all time favorite Mambo Jambo

Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival announces 2009 event

ORANJESTAD - The Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival is preparing, once again, to present a high quality music event with an excellent line up. Expect international, regional, and national artists of sublime standards to be portrayed at this 'one of its kind' jazz fiesta in Aruba!

The first two editions have been described as "a virtuoso inspiring experience". The Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival combines Latin & western notes with hints of New & Old World and has great assorted value and variety for all ages: A yearly, exciting event on our special island.

Continued on Page 2



MIO launches modern & sophisticated services Aruba



More on Page 5

TODAY'S McCOMBO[®]
MONDAY TO THURSDAY

f 7.50
each one



WEDNESDAY McCHICKEN[®]

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Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival announces 2009 event



Continued from Front Page
This year it will happen on September 4th and 5th 2009. This is a jazz fest with innovative programming

for those who know, and a mixture of jazz for those who want to find out. Notorious artists have visited the island, such as Michel Camilo, Randal Corsen, Praful, Yuri Honing, Moon Baker, The Ploctones, Cubop City Big Band, and many more, playing anything from salsa and jazz to rock and hip-hop.

For our visitors from abroad, make a holiday of it – venture into the world of jazz music on our friendly island. Everybody, keep an eye on this website for early ticket releases: www.caribbeanseafoundation.com

WHAT THE PRESS AND ARTISTS SAID BEFORE about this festival:

“...can only be described as jazz-blues-rock ‘n roll influences intertwined with rapid-fire percussive picking in unison with complementary bass and drum patterns...”

“Music is a passport and the best country to experience it in is the CSJF, where you get rhythm, flavor, and color through musicians of all nations.”

“The tour-de-force of this first night was Moon Baker. Wrong, another tour-de-force showed up. And another!”

“...with great credentials, having provided the conga beats, live and in the studio, for a who’s who of Jazz and Latin: Tito Puente, Dave Samuels, Paquito d’Rivera, David Sanchez, Danilo Perez and Eddie Palmieri...”

“...once crossed axes with the legendary Jaco Pastorius at the 1984 Martinique guitar festival. Later on, he recorded with pianist Andy Narell”

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SUMMER

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UP TO 50%

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The Westin Aruba Art Gallery inaugurates the Wine Food & Art Exhibition



Palm Beach – The Westin Aruba Art gallery proudly opened the Wine, Food & Art Exhibition with excellent works by local artists and their treatment of a popular subject, namely local cuisine. Stan Kuiperi, Eliza Lejuez, Ciro Abath, Irene Peterson Eff Van Straten and more, present a number of works in the lobby gallery managed by AAMC and Gabor van der Straten. The exhibition, part of the Fifth

Annual Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival is open every day, and during the festival will also host a series of special artistic events. The festival program features a variety of unique and delicious options. On Thursday May 21st, 2009, Taste of Aruba, Best Chef Competition will unfold at the Pago Pago Restaurant at 7 p.m. The special dinner will be prepared by Aruba's top



chefs from the Westin Resort, Aruba, Papiamento Restaurant, Waterfront Crabhouse, The Flying Fishbone, Screaming Eagle, Le Dome and Aqua Grill. Each chef will make a signature course and pair it with a wine selection. An award will be given at the end of the evening to the chef presenting the "People's Choice" dish. On Friday, May 22nd, 2009, the much anticipated Wine & Food Pairing Exhibition will take place from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. The Wine & Food Pairing in the Grand Ballroom offers an opportunity for exquisite food & wine tastings with the Westin Culinary Team, Aruba Culinary School Students and invited wineries from around the globe. Music will be provided by Daniel Aguirre's Jazz band. The Wine & Food Pairing is open to the public. As part of its program, the festival is also offering a Trade Fair, by local and international Wine and Liquor Purveyors, in honor of local clients, by-invitations only. On Saturday, May 23rd, 2009, the highlight of the festival is the elegant and unique "Capturing the Champagne Sparkle" gala dinner, from 7 p.m. to midnight. The Final Champagne event will offer dinner with South America's most famous celebrity chef, Colombian-born Harry Sasson Tchira. The evening will be sponsored by Moet Chandon and Dom Perignon, matching the chef's east-west creations with delectable, bottomless flutes of Champagne. The festival will culminate with a great concert by Edjean, singing a classic tribute to Frank Sinatra. Tickets to all events are available at the Westin's lobby concierge. Hurry up, they are limited in quantity. □





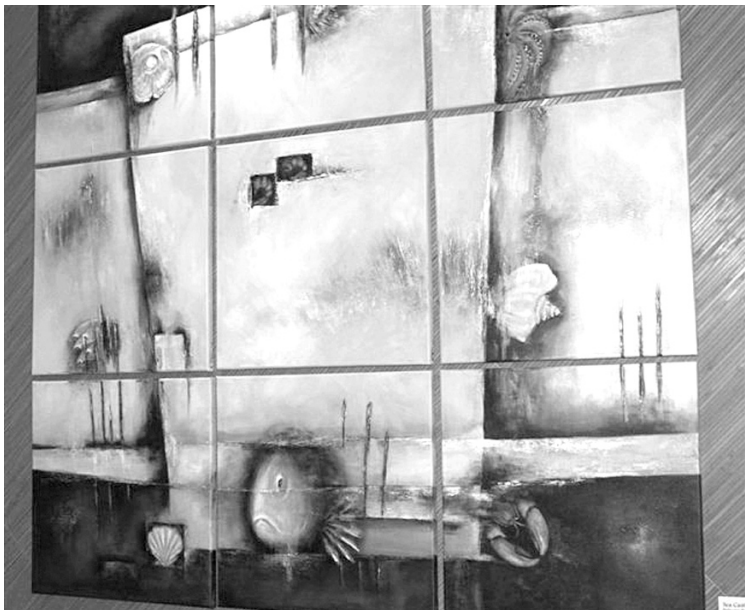
Special Month of May!

<p>Appetizer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish Soup • Onion Soup • Conch Fritters • Fish Cake • Salad 	<p>Entrée</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh Catch of the Day prepared by our local chef just the way you like it. • Jumbo Shrimp from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine. • Filet Mignon 8 oz. US Tenderloin • Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast
<p>Dessert</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chocolate or Banana Cake • Ice Cream • Coffee / Tea 	<p>3-course dinner \$24 per person</p> <p><small>* This special cannot be used with any other promotions, vouchers or certificates.</small></p>



Driftwood Restaurant
Authentic Aruban Seafood

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\$19.95, All You Can Eat Dinner Buffet

Served daily from 5:00 to 10 p.m (price per person and subject to service charge & tax)

Sundown Special, receive 10% off your meal when seated by 6 p.m.

*Kids Eat Free *Kids under age 12, one per paying adult

Monday Seafood Sampler

Tuesday Bravo Italiano

Wednesday An island favorite - BBQ night

Thursday Chateaubriand, Oo-la-la

Friday International Seafood Festival

Saturday Simply Perfect - Prime Rib

LagunaRestaurantAruba.com

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Radisson
ARUBA
RESORT, CASINO & SPA

REGISTER NOW TO PARTICIPATE IN BARTENDER CONTEST ON MAY 22nd

MARRIOTT IS LOOKING FOR ARUBA'S BEST BARTENDERS

PALM BEACH – On Friday night May 22nd the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino will host the “Spirit of the Caribbean Summer 2009 Bartender Contest” in the hotel’s Grand Ballroom. The registration process for this popular contest has started and all bartenders are invited to join.

The Spirit of the Caribbean Summer Bartender contest gives Aruba’s bartenders the opportunity to showcase their skills and performance.

A professional jury consisting of local proficient experts will be present and determine which bartender will carry the title of Best Bartender 2009. A grand prize awaits the winner of this big event.

Bartenders can register for free for this contest by calling Junior Montaner at 737 2772 or by emailing junior.montaner@marriott.com. All recipes of the participating drinks must contain the brand Monster. Booths are also available at this event, providing the ability to showcase your restaurant/bar menus

and products at a fee. For more information, please contact Junior Montaner. Deadline for inscription is May 21st 2009.

This exciting event will take place on May 22nd 2009 from 8:00 pm till 1:00 am in the Grand Ballroom. Live entertainment will be provided by NBO and Kevin James. All locals and island visitors are invited to see the spectacular shows of the bartenders. The entrance fee is 5 florins (\$3).

The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms – the most spacious on the island – each with large, private balconies overlooking the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with cascading waterfalls and high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions. To obtain more information call the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino at 888-PARADISE or visit www.arubamarriott.com. □

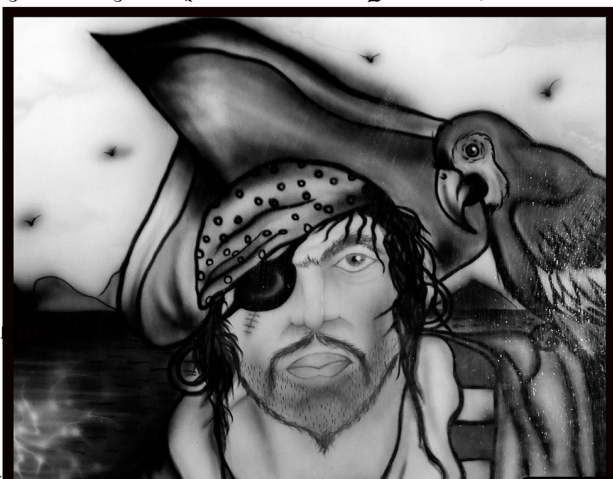


Buccaneer Restaurant

Aruba's Legendary Buccaneer Restaurant, serving the freshest fish and seafood from the sea to your to your plate including steaks, duck, poultry and pasta dishes.

Whether you come with the whole family, bring a group of friends, or enjoy for a romantic dinner for two, Buccaneer has the high quality service and fresh, flavorful international dishes that will make your dining experience a memorable. reservations email us at info@buccaneeraruba.com or call 586-6172

Monday - Saturday 5:30-10 pm



Ahoy Matey bring this ad in for a free glass of house wine



restaurant

PAM PAM special

4 course menu
only \$ 23.-

Appetizer: Mustard soup or fish soup or tomato soup

Middle course: Kebab pincho served with tzatziki

Main course: Fish stew or Tenderloin pincho on spicy vegetables
or Mexican chicken platter

Dessert: Brownie with ice cream or fruit sorbet with ice cream

Location : Perle d'Or - For reservation call: 5877710 / 5932660



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HAVE IT YOUR WAY, RIGHT AWAY!

A tortilla tastefully filled with omelet, bacon*, cheese, hash browns and topped with Smokey Cheese Sauce

*Also available with ham or sausage



HAVE IT YOUR WAY!

MIO launches modern & sophisticated services Aruba

Welcome to Aruba's next generation wireless network

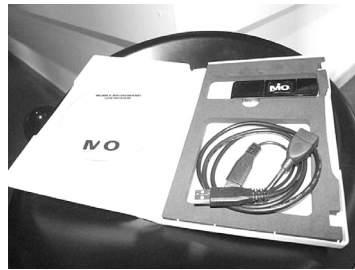
NET
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ENJOY UNLIMITED ACCESS FOR INTERNET BROWSING, E-MAIL AND MORE.

Take your unlimited Internet access with you anywhere you go. It is seamless - you get it anywhere, anytime on the MIO Mobile Broadband Network.

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Wireless Internet
Long Distance
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Business

MIO GROUP

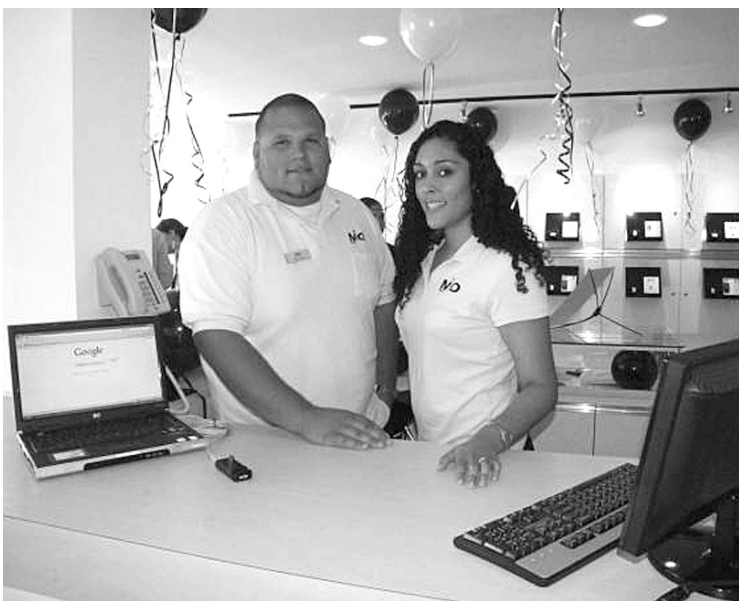


on the Island of Aruba. The new internet service is based from a USB plug you can be connected through out the Caribbean fast browser, speed of light internet.

"We are extremely proud of our new service and business on the Island of Aruba," said Terrence Lacle of MIO. Now you can be 24Hrs online unlimited access to



the internet. It's new day for everyone to be on the world wide web. □



ORANJESTAD - Known as the fastest growing wireless mobile company in the Caribbean, MIO has just officially launched there newest wireless solution

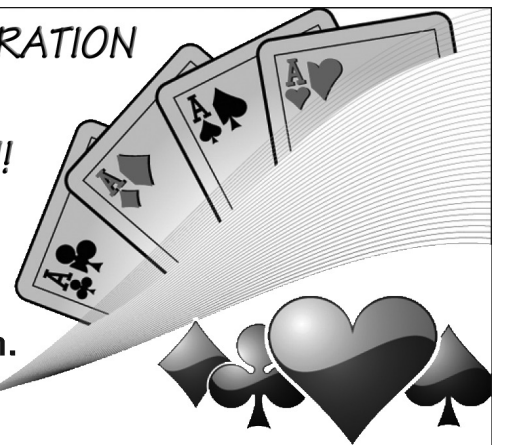


5th YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

at the
RADISSON POKER ROOM!!!

Qualify now for big fun prize drawings
every week from April 10 — May 31!!!

Poker Room opens at 5:30 p.m.



♣ **\$50 FREE, Early Bird Special!**
(start a poker game by 6:30pm, play 'till 9pm)

♥ **\$100 BEST HAND Every Night!**
Beat Texas Hold'em hand awarded at 2 am

♦ **ROYAL FLUSH PAYS**
5% of BAD BEAT

♠ **Lose with Pocket Aces,**
Win \$100! From 2 am to closing

No-Limit Texas Hold 'em
Tournaments & Sit 'n Go's!

DON'T MISS OUR
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PROMOTIONS!

THE CASINO
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Premium complimentary bar and
snacks served nightly.

Visit us to relax, enjoy the island's
best poker and have some fun!



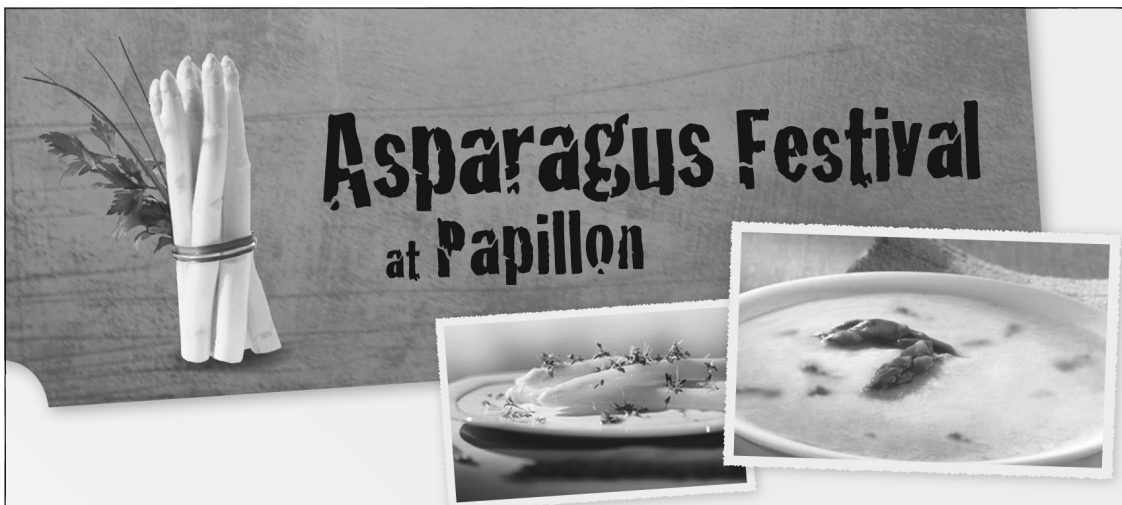
Loyal visitors honored at Divi Village Resort



ORANJESTAD - Recently visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at



Divi Village they call their home away from home . Benito & Gilda Lemus were honored as an Ambassador of goodwill after visiting Aruba for more then 21 years and also Michael & Maureen Price were honored as an distinguished visitor . On picture Kimberly Giel from ATA together with all honorees and also Gloria & Griffith from the Divi Village Resort. □



Appetizers: _____

- Creamy asparagus soup \$8
- Asparagus Tempura and smoked salmon served with salad and a garlic dressing. \$15
- Asparagus a la Flamande = classic Flemish. White asparagus served with chopped egg and nutmeg, melted butter and parsley. \$17

Entrées: _____

- Pan-fried salmon filet with asparagus duo, white and green asparagus, mashed potato and hollandaise sauce. \$28
- Tenderloin served with a risotto of asparagus and red port sauce. White and green Asparagus. \$30

Papillon
RESTAURANT

Kitchen open every day from 5pm till 10.30pm. Early Bird from 5pm till 7pm.
All major credit cards accepted. Reservations recommended.
Papillon Restaurant @ The Village (across from Radisson),
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Email: reservations@papillonaruba.com Internet: www.papillonaruba.com



QUE PASA?
RESTAURANT

PROUDLY INTRODUCES:
QUE PASA? HAPPY HOUR!!

Times are getting tough and money is getting tight so the Que Pasa crew is here to help you start of your weekend well!

Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday special prices on drinks between 5 and 7 pm.

Heineken, polar, bright, balashi	Awg: 3, 50
Premium liquors	Awg: 5, 00
Superior liquors	Awg: 6, 50

So invite all your friends and colleagues to join the Que Pasa happy hour!!

Que Pasa?
Restaurant~Bar~Art Gallery
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Oranjestad, Aruba
T: (00297)5834888
www.quepasaaruba.com
quepasa@setarnet.aw

Netherlands Caribbean law firm expands and opens office in Bonaire

Bonaire will have its first full service international law firm. The leading law firm in the Dutch Caribbean, VanEps Kunneman VanDoorne, will open this office in June 2009 to provide the future "municipalities" of the Netherlands, the islands Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba, with local, intra-insular, and international legal services at the highest level. The firm

Aloha Bridge Club Aruba Bridge

Results Thursday 7 May 2009
ORANJESTAD - On Thursday morning a total of 9 pairs attended the bridge session at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort.

The results 50 % and higher are as follows:

- 1 Annette Ybeles / Joke Henriquez 65.83 %
- 2 Maritza van Romondt / Willy Flanegin 59.03 %
- 3 Ghislaine Mendes / Margreet Kuiperdal 58.33 %
- 4 Katy Rasenberger / Addy Eilers 52.50 %
- 5 Jaenette Schoemaker / Fred Koopman 51.39 %

Bridge Results
Friday 8 May 2009

A total of 8 pairs attended the evening bridge session at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort.

The results 50 % and higher are as follows:

- 1 Katy Rasenberger / Addy Eilers 69.44 %
- 2 Fred van der Leest / Chris Joosten 56.25 %
- 3 Katy Yarzagaray / Els Lacle 55.56 %

Aloha Bridge Club Aruba meets twice a week: on Thursday mornings at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club, starting at 9.00 am and on Friday evenings at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar starting at 7.30 pm. Signing up closes ten minutes before starting time. Fee for guest players: \$ 6.00 or Afl. 10.00 per person.

The club can also be of assistance in finding single players a bridge partner. Please call Addy Eilers : tel. 582-4953

also invests in its offices in Curacao and Aruba, and in the meantime has become the largest law firm in the region.

Managing Partner Frank Kunneman: "Because of the dismantling of the Netherlands Antilles, Bonaire is heading for a tremendously exciting and interesting future with important legal and fiscal changes. In addition to a strong economic development, we expect this will lead to a strongly increased welfare for

residents and companies on Bonaire. VanEps Kunneman VanDoorne would like to contribute to that and be part of this development."

Mr. Mark Kater has been hired and charged with the management of this office. Previously Mr. Kater worked as a lawyer with the Dutch law firm Houthoff Buruma. Before joining VanEps Kunneman VanDoorne he worked at the law firm Allen & Overy LLP in Amsterdam as Head

of Business Development & Marketing.

The growth of the firm is confirmed by Mr. J.M. (Jeannot) de Cuba joining as partner in Aruba as per January 1, 2009. In the past Mr. De Cuba was already employed with VanEps Kunneman VanDoorne in Curacao, after which he opened his own office in Aruba with several other partners in 1999. Since August 2006 he has been back with VanEps Kunneman

VanDoorne. At the moment he is Vice-Dean of the Aruban Bar and president of the Supervisory Board of the "Stichting Algemeen Pensioenfonds of Aruba" (APFA) (the General Pension Fund Foundation of Aruba).

In the past month, Ms. Laura E. Fresco and Mr. E.A.D.M.E.J. (David) Wever were also sworn in before the Common Court of Justice of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. □



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**The hottest Cuban Show
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The biggest stage production
in the Caribbean, featuring Cuban dancers
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Children under 12 pay \$25
Showtime: Tuesday through
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Tickets available at Box Office,
Lobby Concierge desk of the
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For more information call 583 6000
ext. 6115 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
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at the Crystal Theater box office, Renaissance
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Monday through Saturday.

This special is NOT valid in combination with any other specials and cannot be
purchased at any other vendor than the Box Office of the Renaissance Aruba
Resort & Casino.





Tracey & Ismael say “I Do again”

OCCIDENTAL –This past Saturday evening at Occidental Grand Aruba Resort Tracey & Ismael Lopez said ‘I do’ to each other again. After 10 years they are still very much in love, and decided to re-marry and exchange their vows on the beautiful island of Aruba. The lovebirds met at work and became friends. Their love blossomed into a forever



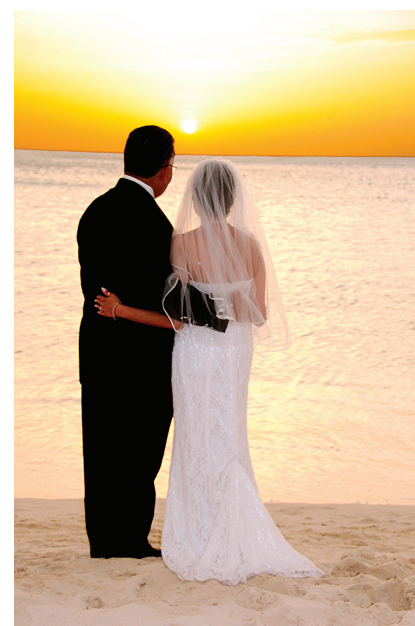
backdrop of forever moments captured by Bella Aruba Photography. They celebrated the special occasion with an intimate reception on the beach of Occidental Grand Aruba Resort while Delbert Bernabela delighted the couple with his saxophone of romantic jazz.

Photos by Angela Munzenhofer



love. They were married on a cruise ship in May 1999 and have been happily married. In 2004 Ismael was by Tracey’s side during a hard struggle with health issues and saved her life. In this time their love grew deeper and stronger. Tracey & Ismael were planning an Aruba vacation and knew that this would be the perfect place to celebrate their 10th anniversary.. They were in great hands under the watchful eye of wedding coordinator Kimberly Dammerman

of Occidental Grand Aruba Resort. Kimberly and Occidental’s event staff made sure every last single detail was attended to. On May 9, 2009 Tracey & Ismael renewed their love on the pristine shores of Palm Beach with officiate Robert Gibson who delivered the sermon. They exchanged rings, reaffirming the endless and unbreakable circle of their love. Tracey & Ismael sipped on champagne while the sunset in the horizon, which made a perfect




RENAISSANCE
MALL

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"Aruhiba" Aruba's homemade cigar



ORANJESTAD - Benjamin Petrochi has started the newest

export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called 'Aruhiba'. These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrochi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold cigars from outside, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of "Aruhiba" cigars in Aruba. The process took 5 years Petrochi's dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and



process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar case is specially designed for the cigars with the logo 'Aruhiba' and 'Made in Aruba'. Petrochi considers 'Aruhiba' a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

The company sells international cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and get 1 free for \$35.00. Located at the Historic Dutch



Windmill from 9am to 8pm. Open on Sunday. And also at Tamarijn: open 9am - 5pm and Sunday from 9am to 1pm.

The only place to get Aruhiba and all major credit cards accepted.

We have homemade and best premium Cuban Cigars. All cigars are legal through costum.

Call 586-7833 or 593-6177. Open for tour operators and we have a large parking space. Come and see Mr. Petrochi rolling the cigars everyday.



Restaurant

*save money
20% discount*



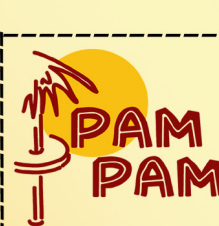
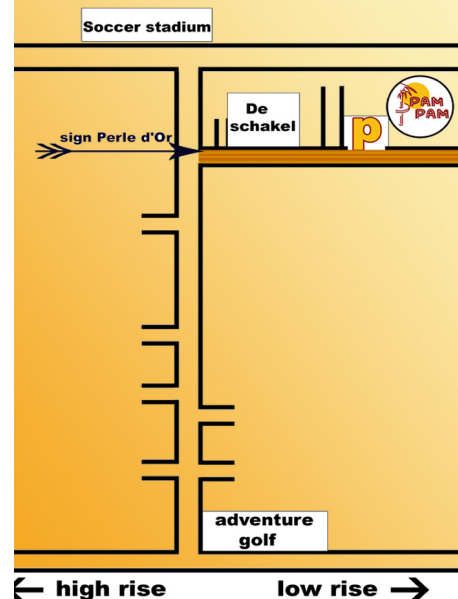
Located in the charming tropical enverions of the Perle d'Or resort, the Pam Pam restaurant offers a peek at Aruba's cunucu (countryside) while still being conveniently located close to all of Aruba's prime resorts.

Firts-time patrons will be pleasantly surprised by an appealing a la carte menu that is quite affordably priced.

Pam Pam has the biggest menu with a choice from 26 main-courses, all priced between \$ 13 / \$ 23 (excl. discount).no service charge

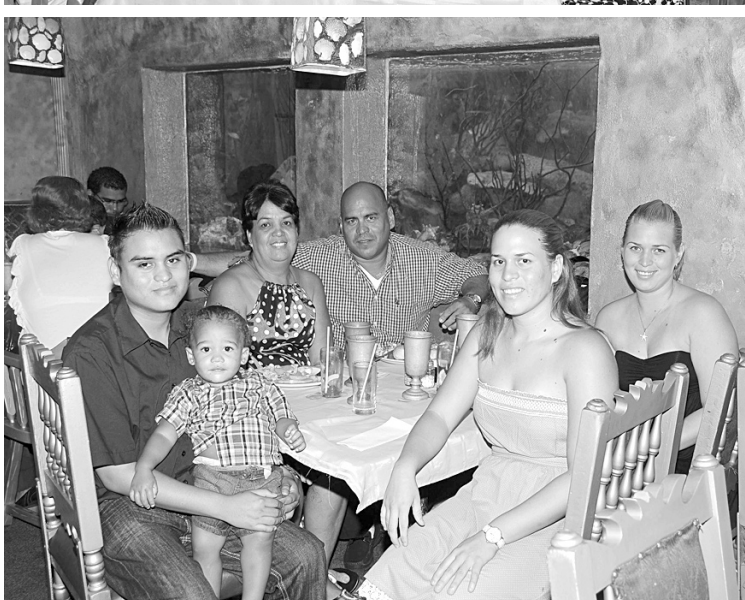
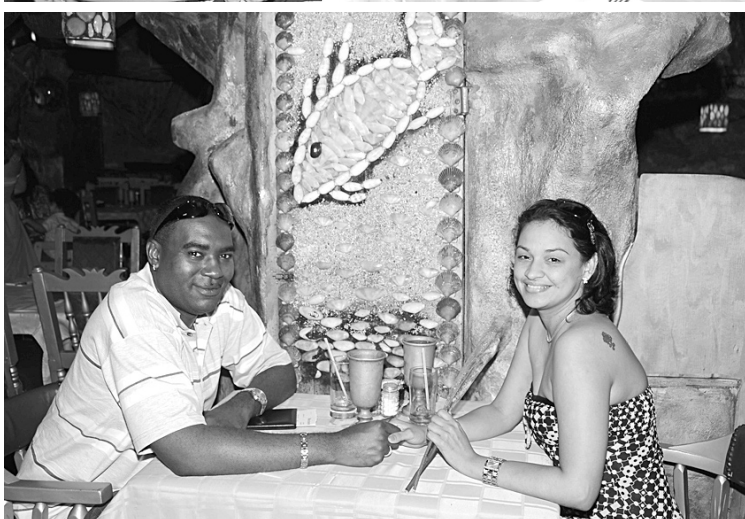
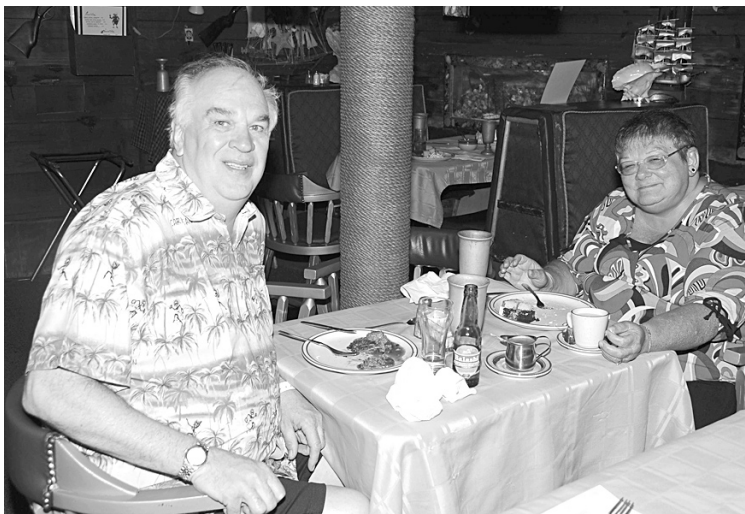
Pam Pam 's house specialty is a unique method of preperation, wich presently at Aruba is found only at their establishment and which they have dubbed their "gourmet meal.

A grill and a collection of fresh ingredients for the various dishes ordered are assembled tableside, and patrons prepare the food themselves, controlling their preference of seasonings and garnishes, along with degree of doneness, providin a unique and personal taste treat. It is suggested that reservation for this singular dining experience be made before 3 p.m



With this coupon you recieve 20% dicount on all main-courses from our menu.

1 coupon per 2 persons and not valid with other dicounts or specials for reservation call: 5877710 / 5932660



At Buccaneer Restaurant

A Perfect Mothers Day Buffet



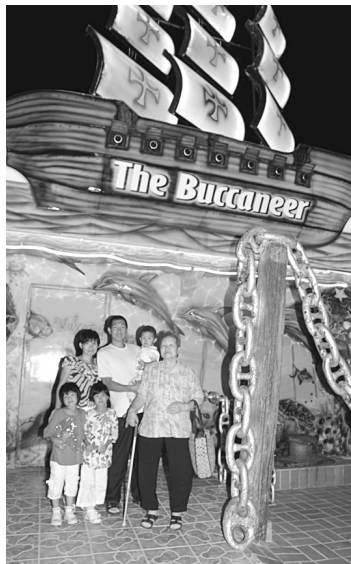
BUCCANEER- This year Mothers Day was a true success at Buccaneer Restaurant who celebrated their second grand buffet. From early hours the chefs and kitchen staff

worked hard in preparing a feast to feed the Queen's of the day and their families. The restaurant opened their doors from 10 am to 10 pm. Chef Franklin prepared a variety of dishes including two of his famous signature Chicago Rounds, Buccaneer shrimp, grouper fillet, chicken parmesan, seafood medley, oyster and clam chowder soup, beef tenderloin with mushroom caps and so much more which ended at the dessert and fruit table. The Buccaneer received many compliments on a job well done. The kitchen and wait staff did a fabulous job at making sure each guest was well taken care of on such a special day. Many of the guests

were questioning if Buccaneer would open the doors for their first Fathers Day buffet. I guess we will have to find out next month.

"Guests started filling the legendary Buccaneer restaurant on Mothers Day at 10:00 am non stop. It was great to see that our guests were satisfied and a magnificent day to see families rejoicing," replied owner Josef S. Munzenhofer and added "I could not have done this without my wonderful staff who did a superb job". The Buccaneer wants to thank the guests for sharing Mother's Day with their loved ones. □

Photos by Angela Munzenhofer



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Test your skills with others who love the THRILL of Live Poker
The hottest game on the Island

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Blinds \$10 - \$20 | Minimum Buy-In: \$200
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For more info please call: 586-1234, ext.4583
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Monday through Friday
9:30 am or 10:30 am



Aruba's Beer Tour

Please wear closed shoes & no Tank-Tops. Combine your Balashi tour with our delicious local lunch at local prices starting at \$ 7.00.

Entrepreneur Woman Workshop



ORANJESTAD – An excellent initiative by Pastor Harold Grant and his wife Ghislaine, brought together a diverse group of ladies for the purpose of helping them spread their wings and take an “Entrepreneur Woman Workshop.”

The workshop was held at the building of “Corporate Impact Ministries,” and it featured three local guest speakers, three businesswomen who own companies, namely Merreldeth Curie, consultant and medical adviser for pharmaceutical companies, Rachelle Phillip, from QF, Quick Finder Group of Services and Gerella Vrolijk,

from Fabulous bijou shop. The speakers talked about setting up their own businesses, and discussed women at work in general. All shared what inspired them to take the first step, a leap of faith, into the business world. The group enjoyed breakfast before the workshop and a flea-market type of fair afterwards, organized by Natasha Lambert, Martha Peters and Ghislaine Grant. The workshop revealed that common sense is at the heart of all life-changing decisions, combined with faith and tenacity, values such as Save Money, Crate a Business Plan, Find a Competitive

Edge and Do What You Love, basically sum it all up, still it is often easier said than done. The excellent initiative designed to help women in the community was non-denominational, and it is not the first time, in the past Minister Marisol Tromp was also a guest speaker and guests who participate are not church members, they are just local women with a dream.

Pastor Harold Grant, 33, hails from the Bahamas, and is married to an Aruban, whom he met in Ohio while attending college. The church was established 5 years ago, and enjoys a multicultural attendance. □





By: Dr Carlos Viana

While interning in Shanghai as a Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) physician, I learned that an energetic heart allows the expression of joy. The literary word for lightening the mood of something is "leaven"; as in "readers tell me that these weekly articles leaven or enliven their mood". The Modern Greek word "leaven" is "enzumos" that yields the word enzyme. Enzymes are proteins produced by the cells that control or "turn on" thousands of body reactions.

One enzyme family is digestive enzymes, which help the body naturally, digest food, a good thing. Plant digestives, like Bromelain from pineapple are good supplement choices. But even good things need help, like Phyllis, without whose organization skills, I would accomplish very little. Similarly, an important partner that helps enzymes work are coenzymes. The prefix "co" means together or jointly, like co-worker.

One coenzyme that is getting a lot of attention is Coenzyme10 or CoQ10. This supplement is widely used in Japan to treat angina, severe chest pains because of a lack of blood to the heart. Pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, swelling of the ankles, legs or abdomen, and increased urination, are all symptoms that may signal that the heart cannot pump sufficient blood to keep pace with the energy demands of the body, congestive heart failure. If you suspect any of the above, it may be a good idea to have a check-up.

CoQ10 is found in every cell in the body. CoQ10 assists

enzymes in bringing oxygen into the cells and producing energy needed for cell growth and maintenance. It is also used by the body as an antioxidant. An antioxidant is a substance that protects cells from unhealthy chemicals called free radicals. Free radicals are highly reactive chemicals that can damage parts of cells, including DNA. DNA is a molecule inside cells that carries genetic information and passes it from one generation to the next. This damage may play a role in the development of cancer. Low blood levels of CoQ10 have been found in patients with bone, lymph gland, breast, lung, prostate, pancreas, colon, kidney, and other cancers.

Think of CoQ10 as an accelerator pedal in your car that sends more fuel to your heart. If the fuel is not available, symptoms of congestive heart failure develop. The fuel for your body is ATP whose structure includes a sugar called ribose. Combining the dietary supplement D-ribose together with CoQ10 is an energizing combination.

As a Clinical Nutritionist I always recommend CoQ10 be taken together with complementary or "co-worker" supplements; because absorption of CoQ10 into your body is poor. In fact, probably over 60 percent of most oral doses of CoQ10 are excreted by the body without being used. Absorption of CoQ10 is greater when taken together with food that has a good quality fat content, like olive oil, wild caught salmon

and butter (notice I did not say margarine). Because of this, I always recommend taking CoQ10 together with a fat or oil, like Omega 3 or Alpha-lipoic acid. Quality dietary supplement manufactures are now producing CoQ10 with enhanced absorption or bioavailability by surrounding each CoQ10 molecule with tiny fat cells of good fats like alpha-lipoic acid

Most modern diets are deficient in Omega 3's and adding Flax seed oil or Fish oils, to a daily supplement program, which includes vitamin C, Magnesium, Zinc and Lecithin is what I feel is a great basic dietary plan. Of course, not everybody utilizes or absorbs the same. If you have any health concerns, visit a clinical nutritionist to be sure you are getting the right combination of co-workers for your needs

Another super oil or fat is alpha lipoic acid which is known as the "universal antioxidant". It has the ability to conserve and prolong the life of vitamins C & E in the body, increasing their effectiveness. Alpha lipoic acid is also an excellent metal detoxifier, particularly for mercury and cadmium.

In Germany, alpha-lipoic acid is an approved medical treatment for nerve damage and pain, a common complication of diabetes. It speeds the removal of glucose from the bloodstream, at least partly by enhancing insulin function, and it reduces insulin resistance, the foundation of many cases of coronary heart disease and obesity. The richest

food source of alpha-lipoic acid is red meat.

Alpha lipoic acid binds easily with CoQ10 making it better absorbed by your body. Because of insufficient dietary intake of healthy oils, taking alpha-lipoic acid together with CoQ10 is a good way to increase absorption of both. These two supplements in combination are extremely effective for prolonging cellular vitality and reducing the body's production of unhealthy free radicals. ALA and CoQ10 also enhance production of ATP which is the body's form of energy.

D-Ribose alone can help your body refuel and stay energized a must for athletes, older individuals, exhausted parents or anyone with busy lives. Together, ALA with CoQ10 and D-ribose help produce much more energy for all body functions, including exercise and relaxing and recovery of the body's muscles. This is a joyous thing, especially for the heart.

Get The Point! Dietary supplements are important tools that can be used to maintain or return health; but, like carpentry tools, knowledge on how to use them is instrumental. An appointment with a clinical nutritionist can identify your personal needs and introduce the correct co-workers to do the best job. My biocompatible protocol also includes heavy metal and other detoxification and acupuncture, a treatment that rebalances the body's energy, relaxes tight muscles and increases the effectiveness of dietary supplements. Want to allow more joy into your heart? Call to make an appointment.



CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270 FAX: 585-4789, Web Sight: www.vianaheal.com

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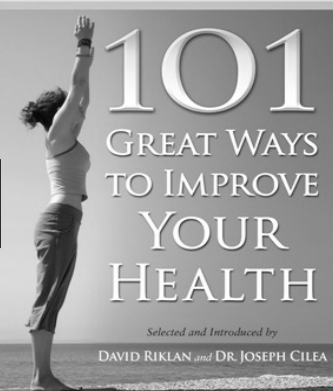
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Mother's get a Taste of Belgium on Sunday



Photo by Julia Renfro

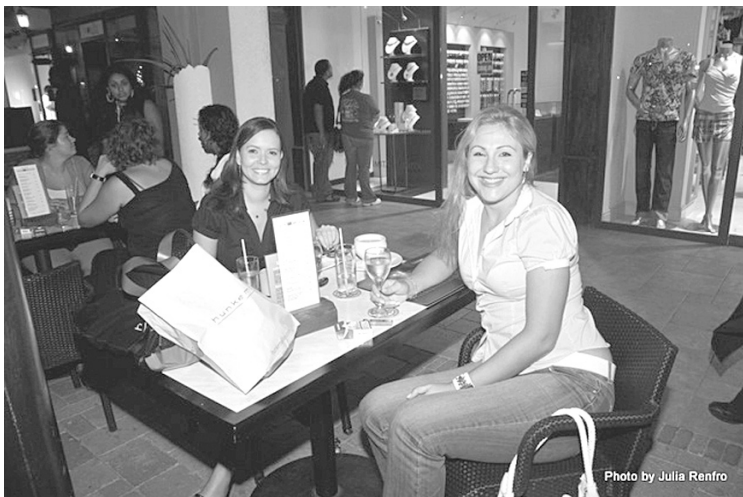


Photo by Julia Renfro

PALM BEACH – This past Sunday evening, mothers and potential mothers enjoyed the most fabulous flavors of the Taste of Belgium in the Paseo Herencia Mall. The island celebrated Mother's Day to its fullest with many stopping in to the Taste of Belgium to finish the day in style.

Taste of Belgium is located in the Paseo Herencia Shopping Mall across from the Holiday Inn Beach Resort : a spot of understated elegance and affordable luxury. A team of very good chefs and waiters serve coffee, drinks, lunch and dinner in true Taste of Belgium style, which means with that tiny bit of extra thought and effort which makes coming back a next time so easy. Many Taste of Belgium guests are mesmerized by its range of famous Belgian beers: from light to dark, strong to even stronger. The variety in Belgian Beers is amazing. Some beers taste fruity, others have a bitter aftertaste, but all



Photo by Julia Renfro

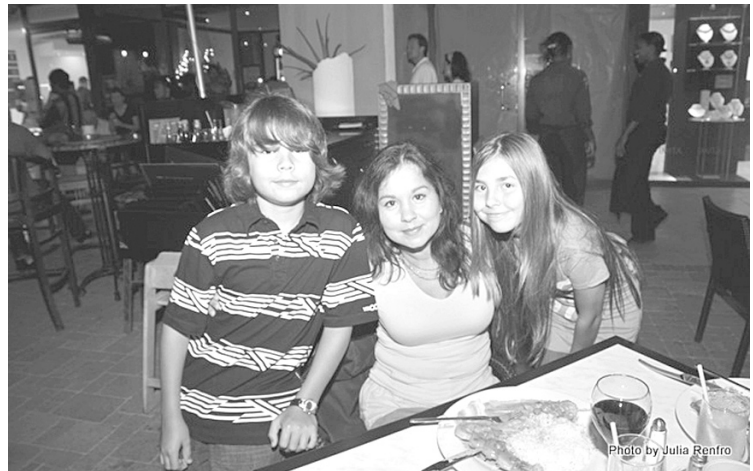


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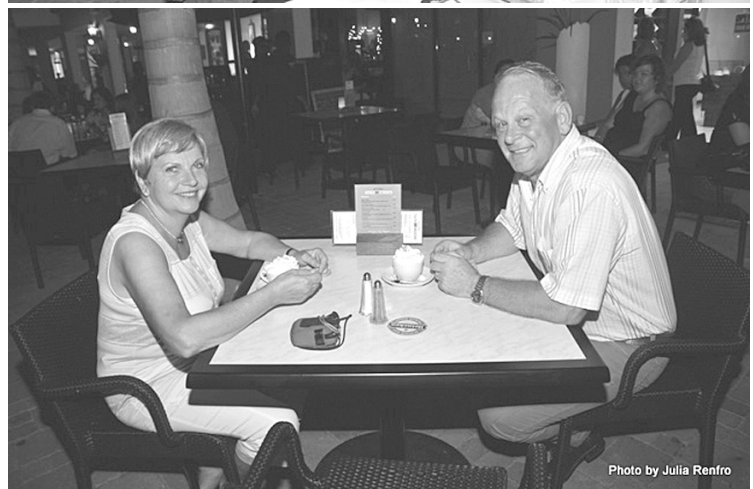


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do go down very well indeed. One can also purchase the specialty glasses of the beers to take home as a souvenir of a memorable evening. Opening hours of Taste of Belgium are from 10 am till 12 am. There is a no-reservations policy. In the central area of the courtyard a regular watershow is held. Paseo Herencia is located across from the Holiday Inn Beach Resort; it is close by the Marriott Resort. Taste of Belgium: a bistro with a twist ☐



Photo by Julia Renfro

Children under 10 eat for free off the Kid's Menu

Fishes & More celebrate the delicious white asparagus

In keeping with the island's Dutch influence, the white asparagus is a seasonal obsession because the Netherlands is a major producer of the "blonde" crop. To make the asparagus white, farmers cover the stalks with dirt, depriving them of sunlight, so no chlorophyll is produced creating what the Dutch consider "White Gold".

Today's Special includes:

White asparagus soup

White asparagus prepared the traditional Dutch way

Caribbean lobster tail and white asparagus

Filet mignon and white asparagus



Fishes & More specialize in fresh fish and seafood, and at the same time please the non-fish lovers as well. All the dishes are prepared a la minute by an internationally experienced kitchen team, which gives the twist to our dishes. Influences from all over the world are found back

on the menu and they are already well known for our daily changing specials. If you have a large party, or if there is anything you feel like in particular, Fishes & More can always arrange to have your dinner cooked just for you, as they work only with fresh and honest

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Head downtown to Casa Tua for Lunch and Dinner

Casa Tua's highlight of the day: Ossobuco that melts in your mouth

The downtown atmosphere is cool and relaxed; the name says it all "Casa Tua" meaning "Your Home" in Italian.

Today's highlight of the menu is the Ossobuco di Vitello con Tagliatelle which is a mouth watering Veal Ossobuco (shank) stewed with red wine, parsley, Rosemary, oregano, onions and lemon juice served with the most unique Tagliatelle. After the first bite, patrons are seen pinching themselves to see if they are dreaming or actually taking a true bite of seventh heaven.

The menu doesn't stop there as Casa Tua features



incredible appetizers including shrimp bruschetta, fresh marinated seafood, escargots, amazing salads, homemade soups starting at \$6 and authentic Italian lasagnas & pastas starting at just \$14. The staff at

this popular eatery has set the standard on the island for the term "great service" not only with your dining pleasure, but recognized as 'the' professionals in assisting guests with the perfect cocktail, paired wine or other beverages.

Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu, or Profiteroles au Chocolat Chaud.

Casa Tua Palm Beach
open from 5pm to 11pm.

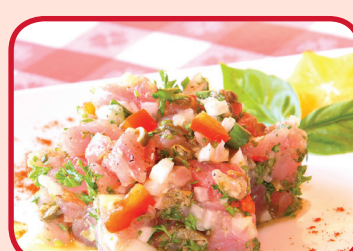
Casa Tua Downtown
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Sunday from 5pm to 11pm.

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waterfalls and fountain and state of the art fiber optic lighting. The entrance of the building has a drive-up covered entrance and an elegant two-story lobby leading to the sun-filled hallways and corridors. The common area will facilitate the owners with a well-equipped gym overlooking the gardens and the pool. The garden will feel like an oasis true to the projects name. There will also be a recreation room and sofas throughout the com

mon area to lounge and relax.

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In this Feb. 11, 2005 file photo, trays of printed social security checks wait to be mailed from the U.S. Treasury's Financial Management services facility in Philadelphia. The trustees for Social Security and Medicare are scheduled to provide their annual report on the finances of both programs on Tuesday, May 12, 2009. In advance of the release, many private analysts said they expected both programs could run out of cash sooner than last predicted.

Associated Press

U.S. recession hits two main benefits programs hard

WASHINGTON (AP) — The continuing U.S. recession has worsened the financial health of the government's two biggest benefit programs, figures released Tuesday showed.

Medicare, the main medical program for the elderly and disabled, will even pay out more in benefits this year than the government collects in taxes for it.

The findings released by trustees of Medicare and Social Security, the government's pension system begun during the Great Depression of the 1930s, could prove to be a blow to Barack Obama's young presidency.

They highlight major drains on government spending as the Obama administration pours massive amounts into economic stimulus and financial rescue packages while planning to trim the deficit. Additionally, a major part of his campaign last year was to extend health insurance to the 50 million Americans who do not have it. Both Social Security and Medicare are financed through payroll contributions from workers and employers.

The findings in the trustees' annual checkup on the programs did not come as a surprise. Private economists had been predicting that the dates the programs would begin to pay out more than they take in and that the dates the trust funds would be insolvent would occur sooner given the economic recession.

The deep recession, the worst in decades, has

resulted in a loss of 5.7 million jobs since it began in December 2007. The unemployment rate hit a 25-year high of 8.9 percent in April. Fewer people working means less being paid into the trust funds for the benefits programs. The trustees said Tuesday that Social Security will start paying out more in benefits than it collects in taxes in 2016, one year sooner than projected last year. Its giant trust fund will be depleted by 2037, four years sooner, they said. Medicare is in even worse shape. The trustees said the program for hospital expenses will pay out more in benefits than it collects this year and will be insolvent by 2017, two years earlier than the date projected in last year's report. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, head of the trustees group, said the new reports were reminders that "the longer we wait to address the long-term solvency of Medicare and Social Security, the sooner those challenges will be upon us and the harder the options will be." For decades, almost every president has tried to tackle the approaching certainty that the hugely popular programs were running out of money. Even before the current recession, it was obvious that the aging of the baby boomer generation, the mass of people born between 1946 and 1964, would put too great a burden on the programs because of retirement needs and old-age medical problems.

Continued on Next Page

Trump says Miss California USA can retain crown



Donald Trump place a sash on Miss California USA, Carrie Prejean following a news conference in New York, Tuesday May 12, 2009. Trump, who owns the Miss USA pageant, says Prejean can retain her Miss California USA crown after she caused a stir expressing opposition to gay marriage and posing in risqué photographs.

Associated Press

MARCUS FRANKLIN

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Miss California USA can retain her crown after questions arose about semi-nude photographs taken of her as a teenager and her association with an anti-gay marriage group, pageant owner Donald Trump said Tuesday.

Continued on Page B5

Soldier charged in comrades' deaths showed combat stress

ROBERT H. REID

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD (AP) — The U.S. military command launched an investigation Tuesday into whether it offers adequate mental health care to its soldiers, a day after a sergeant finishing up his third tour of Iraq allegedly shot and killed five comrades at a clinic on a U.S. base.

Sgt. John M. Russell, 44, of Sherman, Texas, was taken into custody outside a mental health clinic at Camp Liberty following Monday's shooting and charged with five counts of murder and one of aggravated assault, Maj. Gen. David Perkins said.

Continued on Page B6



This U.S. Army photo made available via the family on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 shows U.S. Army Sgt. John M. Russell. Wilburn Russell, the father of the U.S. soldier accused of killing five fellow troops in Iraq says he believes counselors in a military stress center "broke" his son before the shootings. Wilburn Russell spoke with reporters Tuesday, May 12, 2009.

Associated Press



Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, second from right, speaks at a news conference at the Treasury Department in Washington, Tuesday, May 12, 2009, after the annual spring meeting of the Social Security and Medicare Trustees to discuss the financial situation of the Social Security and Medicare trust funds. From left are, Social Security Administration Commissioner Michael Astrue, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, Geithner, and Labor Secretary Hilda Solis.

Associated Press

U.S. RECESSION

Continued from From Page B1

Geithner said Obama was committed to working with Congress to find ways to

control runaway growth in both public and private health care expenditures. Major health care providers promised the president on Monday to trim costs by

\$2 trillion over the next decade.

The Congressional Budget Office recently projected that Social Security will collect just \$3 billion more

in 2010 than it will pay out in benefits. A year ago, the nonpartisan CBO had projected that Social Security would have a much higher \$86 billion cash surplus for the 2010 budget year, which begins Oct. 1.

The trustees report projected that Social Security's annual surpluses would "fall sharply this year," then remain at a reduced level in 2010 and be lower in the following years than last year's projections. The report said that the Social Security annual surplus would be eliminated entirely in 2016, reflecting increased retirement demands of the wave of 78 million baby boomers retiring.

That means Social Security will have to turn to its trust fund to make up the difference between Social Security taxes and the benefits being paid out beginning in 2016. The trustees projected the trust fund would be depleted in 2037, four years earlier than the 2041 date in last year's report.

At that point, annual Social Security taxes collected would be enough to pay for three-fourths of current benefits through 2083. To tap the trust fund, the government would have to increase borrowing or raise taxes because Social Security bonds exist only as bookkeeping entries.

While the government is obligated to redeem the bonds, it has already spent the excess Social Security collections over the years to fund general government operations, providing the trust funds with IOUs.

While the smaller surpluses that will begin this year will not have any impact on Social Security benefit payments, the government will need to borrow more at a time when the federal deficit already is exploding because of the recession and the billions of dollars being spent to prop up a shaky banking system. □

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Island Remedy. The legend of aloe revealed.

Island Remedy is now available at Aruba Aloe stores at the Paseo Herencia Mall, the Renaissance mall and at the Aruba Aloe Factory, Hato. To purchase the products online from the USA, visit www.ArubaAloe.com



Transcript: Both pilots shared fear of icy weather

JOAN LOWY

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)

— Just seconds before the worst U.S. air crash in more than seven years, the pilot exclaimed “Jesus Christ” and moments later his co-pilot screamed as Flight 3407 plunged to the ground.

A cockpit voice recorder transcript released Tuesday by the National Transportation Safety Board shows that only minutes before the Feb. 12 crash on approach to Buffalo Niagara International Airport in upstate New York Capt. Marvin Renslow and First Officer Rebecca Shaw chatted about her career and shared their fear of flying in icy weather.

Moments later the Dash 8-Q400 Bombardier, a twin-engine turboprop, experienced an aerodynamic stall and plunged into a house, killing all 49 people aboard and one man on the ground.

The transcript was released as the safety board opened a three-day public hearing Tuesday into the accident. The board was expected to focus heavily on pilot training and fatigue.

As the Dash-8 approached Buffalo on a wintry night, Shaw and Renslow

remarked to each other — less than seven minutes before the crash — about how much ice had formed on their wings.

“It’s lots of ice,” Shaw said.

“Oh yeah that’s the most I’ve seen, most ice I’ve seen on the leading edges in a long time, in a while anyway I should say,” Renslow replied.

Renslow then remarked that he’d flown about 625 hours in the region before he was hired for this job by Colgan Air. Shaw replied, “I really wouldn’t mind going through a winter in the Northeast before I have to upgrade to captain. ... I’ve never seen icing conditions. I’ve never deiced.

I’ve never seen any. I’ve never experienced any of that. I don’t want to have to experience that and make those kinds of calls. You know I’dve freaked out. I’dve have like seen this much ice and thought, ‘Oh my gosh, we were going to crash.’”

“I would’ve been fine,” Renslow replied. “I would have survived it. There wasn’t, we never had to make decisions that I wouldn’t have been able to make but ... now I’m more comfortable.”

The crew then lowers the

landing gear and adjusts the flaps, but at 10:16.26 p.m. there’s a sound similar to movement of the flap handle and Shaw says, “Uhhh.”

Less than a second later, there are sounds similar to the stick shaker — a warning transmitted through the control stick that the aircraft is nearing a stall. These last for 6.7 seconds. Less than a second later, a horn sounds signaling the autopilot disconnecting and that horn continues until the end of the recording.

At 10:16.34.8, Renslow says, “Jesus Christ.”

Shaw says she put the flaps up and asked if she should put the landing gear up. Renslow replies: “Gear up, oh (expletive).”

As noise in the cockpit increases, Renslow adds: “We’re down.”

There’s a thump.

Shaw: “We (sound of scream).”

And the transcript ends.

The board also released documents showing that safety investigators were told by one training instructor that Renslow “was slow learning” the Dash 8 but his abilities “picked up at the end.” The training instructor said Renslow struggled to learn the Dash 8’s flight management system, a critical computer



Capt. Marvin Renslow



Rebecca Shaw

In this combo file photo, Capt. Marvin Renslow, left, and co-pilot Rebecca Shaw are shown. Renslow was piloting Continental Connection Flight 3407, and Shaw was the co-pilot bound from Newark, N.J., Feb. 12, 2009, on approach to Buffalo Niagara International Airport when it went down in light snow and mist and crashed into a house below.

Associated Press

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In this April 2, 2009 file photo, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of Calif., accompanied by House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Md., speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington. So far this year, Congress has done what it does best — spend a lot of money and make a lot of promises. Now, as lawmakers return from a two-week spring break, comes the hard part, the actual crafting of legislation that will change how banks are regulated, health care is delivered and the nation consumes energy.

Associated Press

LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House of Representatives majority leader agreed reluctantly on Tuesday that congressional hearings should investigate Speaker Nancy Pelosi's assertion

that she was not informed, six years ago, that extreme methods were used against an al-Qaida leader.

Rep. Steny Hoyer, like Pelosi a Democrat, called Republican challenges to Pelosi's assertion a diversion from the real question of

House leader to explore Speaker Pelosi torture storm

whether the former Bush administration tortured prisoners. Nonetheless, he acknowledged the controversy should be resolved.

Democrats will hold a series of hearings on Justice Department memos released last month, which justified rough tactics against detainees including so-called waterboarding and sleep deprivation.

While Democrats want the hearings to focus on what they call torture, Republicans have tried to turn the issue to their advantage by complaining that Pelosi and others in her party knew of the tactics but did not protest. Pelosi was briefed in 2002 while on the House

Intelligence Committee.

Hoyer, asked at a news conference whether the Democrats are bringing themselves political problems by holding hearings, said, "I think the facts need to get out."

"I think the Republicans are simply trying to distract the American public with who knew what when. My response to that is, look, the issue is not what was said or what was known; the question and focus ought to be on what was done."

But he added the controversy over "what was said and when it was said, who said it ... is probably what ought to be on the record as well."

A Senate Judiciary subcommittee holds the first

hearing on the interrogation policy on Wednesday, but has scheduled testimony unrelated to the Pelosi matter.

A CIA document made public last week shows that Pelosi received a briefing in September 2002 on the tactics used on Abu Zubaydah, an al-Qaida leader and one of three prisoners subjected to waterboarding.

Pelosi said she was told the agency was discussing its legal right to use the tactic in the future.

"We were not — I repeat — were not told that waterboarding or any of these other enhanced interrogation methods were used," said Pelosi. □

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Five Miami men convicted of Sears Tower attack plot

CURT ANDERSON

AP Legal Affairs Writer

MIAMI (AP) — Five men were convicted Tuesday of plotting to join forces with al-Qaida to destroy Chicago's Sears Tower and bomb FBI offices in hopes of igniting an anti-government insurrection. The jury in Miami acquitted another member of the so-called "Liberty City Six" in the sixth day of deliberations. Two previous trials ended in mistrials when jurors could not agree on the men's guilt or innocence.

U.S. District Judge Joan Lenard set sentencing for July 26 for the five convicted men, most of whom are Haitian or have Haitian ancestry. They lived in Miami's downtrodden inner-city neighborhood known as Liberty City.

They were arrested in June 2006 on charges of plotting terrorism with an undercover

FBI informant they believed was from al-Qaida. Defense attorneys said terrorist talk recorded on dozens of FBI tapes was not serious and the men only wanted money.

Ringleader Narseal Batiste, 35, was the only one convicted of all four terrorism-related conspiracy counts, including plotting to provide material support to terrorists and conspiring to wage war against the U.S. Batiste, who was on the vast majority of hundreds of FBI audio and video tapes, faces up to 70 years in prison. Batiste's right-hand man, 29-year-old Patrick Abraham, was convicted on three counts and faces 50 years behind bars.

Convicted on two counts and facing 30 years are 24-year-old Burson Augustin, 25-year-old Rotschild Augustine and 33-year-old Stanley Grant Phanor.

Naudimar Herrera, 25, was cleared of all four charges.

The jury endured a two-month trial, then had to restart deliberations last week after one juror was excused for illness and a second was booted off the panel for being uncooperative.

After the verdicts were read, court security officials escorted the jury — whose names were kept secret — out of the building before they could be interviewed.

The arrests were initially hailed as a major success by President George W. Bush's administration, an example of disrupting potential attacks at the earliest possible stages.

But two previous juries struggled with the lack of solid evidence indicating the men took any steps to pull off such major mass assaults, such as possessing bomb-making manuals or building blueprints.

Prosecutors focused on the group's intent as captured



Naudimar Herrera walks out with his fiancée Rosa, after being acquitted in federal court in Miami on Tuesday, May 12, 2009. Five men were convicted Tuesday of plotting to join forces with al-Qaida to destroy Chicago's Sears Tower and bomb FBI offices in hopes of igniting an anti-government insurrection. The jury in Miami acquitted Herrera of the so-called "Liberty City Six" in the sixth day of deliberations.

Associated Press

on dozens of FBI audio and video recordings. Batiste is repeatedly heard espousing violence against the U.S.

government and saying the men should start a "full ground war" that would "kill all the devils."

"I want to fight some jihad," Batiste says on one tape.

A key piece of evidence is an FBI video of the entire group pledging an oath of allegiance, or "bayat," to al-Qaida and Osama bin Laden in a March 16, 2006, ceremony led by an FBI informant posing as "Brother Mohammed" from al-Qaida.

But Batiste, who testified in all three trials, insisted he was only going along with Mohammed so he could obtain \$50,000 or more for his struggling construction business and a nascent community outreach program.

Batiste was leader of a Miami chapter of a sect known as the Moorish Science Temple, which combines elements of Christianity, Judaism and Islam and does not recognize the U.S. government's full authority.

Defense lawyers also claimed the case was an FBI setup driven by informants who manipulated the group.

A seventh man who was acquitted after the first 2007 trial, 34-year-old Lyglenson Lemorin, is being deported to his native Haiti anyway. Less stringent immigration laws make it easier for U.S. officials to use the terrorism allegations against Lemorin.

MISS USA

Continued from Page B1

Carrie Prejean's comments about her opposition to same-sex marriage ignited a media firestorm after a celebrity judge suggested her response may have cost her the Miss USA title; she finished as first-runner up. The photos surfaced later and led to the review of her title.

"We've reviewed the pictures carefully," Trump said at a packed news conference at Trump Plaza in New York City. "We've made a determination that the pictures taken were acceptable. Some were risqué, but we are in the 21st century."

Trump also defended the answer Prejean gave at the April 19 Miss USA pageant. She was asked her view of marriage by celebrity blogger Perez Hilton. Prejean said she believes marriage is only between a man and a woman.

Trump only briefly addressed questions surrounding Prejean's association with the National Organization for Marriage, a group that opposes same-sex marriage. He dismissed them as a "communication problem" between Prejean and California pageant officials.

Before competing in the Miss California USA competition, all prospective contestants are required to sign a detailed 12-page contract prohibiting Miss California USA from making personal appearances, giving interviews or making commercials without permission from pageant officials.

The contract also contains a clause asking participants to disclose whether they have conducted themselves "in accordance with the highest ethical and moral standards." It asks participants whether they have ever been photographed nude or partially nude. After Trump spoke, Prejean, who was accompanied by her parents, took her turn at the lectern, defending herself against "hateful attacks, despicable rumors and false allegations."

"On April 19 on that stage I exercised my freedom of speech, and I was punished for doing so," said Prejean, who described Hilton's question as "politically charged" with a "hidden personal agenda."

"This should not happen in America."

In an interview with The Associated Press, Prejean said she was briefly tempted by Satan to answer Hilton's question in a way



Miss California USA, Carrie Prejean, reacts as Donald Trump, left, speaks during a news conference in New York, Tuesday May 12, 2009. Trump, who owns the Miss USA pageant, says Prejean can retain her Miss California USA crown after she caused a stir expressing opposition to gay marriage and posing in racy photographs.

Associated Press

that would please the judges.

"I had worked so hard for this," she said.

Instead, she decided to give her honest opinion, even if it cost her points.

"The Lord was in my heart and in my head just saying, 'Carrie, how bad do you want this? Are you willing to deny me?'" she said. "I will always continue to not compromise my values."

Trump's senior executive assistant, Rhona Graff-Ricci, said Trump wouldn't answer further questions about Prejean's dealings with the marriage group. Officials at the Miss Universe Organization, which runs Miss USA, didn't immediately return a message Tuesday.

Prejean told the AP that she was not working with the National Organization for Marriage.

After the pageant, Prejean revisited the same-sex-marriage issue in interviews and televised talks, including one at her San Diego megachurch and another on behalf of the marriage group.



Wilburn C. Russell, 73, pauses in front of the house his son U.S. Army Sgt. John Russell purchased in Sherman, Texas, Tuesday, May 12, 2009. Russell's son is accused of killing five fellow troops at their base in Iraq.

Associated Press

COMBAT STRESS
Continued from Page B1

The case, the deadliest of the war involving soldier-on-soldier violence, has cast a spotlight on combat stress and emotional problems resulting from frequent deployments

to battle zones in Iraq and Afghanistan. Up to one-fifth of the more than 1.7 million who have served in the two conflicts are believed to have symptoms of anxiety, depression and other emotional problems. Some


studies show that about half of those who need help do not seek it. Russell's father said his son, who joined the Army in 1994 after a divorce and minor scrapes with the law, felt poorly treated at the stress center. He said he hopes "we find he snapped because of the pressure. He wasn't a mean person."

In Baghdad, Perkins told reporters that Russell, a communications specialist assigned to the 54th Engineer Battalion from Bamberg, Germany, was sent to the mental health clinic by his superiors, presumably because of concern over his emotional state. He said the commander had ordered Russell's weapon taken away from him but somehow he got a new weapon, entered the clinic and opened fire. Perkins declined to give a detailed account of the shooting, saying the matter was under investigation. However, a Pentagon official said in Washington that Russell had been escorted to the clinic, but once inside argued with the staff and was asked to leave. After he drove away, Russell apparently seized his escort's weapon and returned to the clinic, the official said on condition of anonymity because the investigation was ongoing. The clinic was operated by the 55th Medical Company, a Reserve unit headquartered in Indianapolis. Two of the victims were officers assigned to the clinic and the three others were enlisted soldiers, Perkins said. The Pentagon identified Cmdr. Charles Springle, 52, of Wilmington, North Carolina, as one of the victims of the shooting. The mother of Michael Edward Yates Jr. said two men from the Army came to her Federalsburg, Maryland home early Tuesday to tell say her 19-year-old son was killed. In addition to the ongoing criminal investigation, Perkins said the U.S. command had opened a formal inquiry into the "general availability" of health care for American


service personnel in Iraq, "specifically the policies and procedures surrounding behavioral health services." He gave no further details and did not say how the investigation was being conducted. The U.S. military has become increasingly concerned about mental health in the ranks following a steady rise in suicides — which the Army says have increased worldwide from at least 102 in 2006 to 140 last year. As of April, the Army had reported at least 48 suicides. Thousands of other veterans are believed to suffer flashbacks, nightmares or fits of anger as they attempt to readjust to civilian life. "One thing if we've learned from this war, we learned from World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the previous wars, is not all injuries are physical," said Maj. Gen. Daniel P. Bolger, commander of Multi-National Division-Baghdad. In Sherman, Wilburn Russell, 73, said he believes counselors in the military stress center "broke" his son before the shootings. The younger Russell was six weeks away from completing his third tour in Iraq before Monday's shootings, the father told reporters Tuesday in front of the two-story suburban home his son is buying with his wife. Wilburn Russell said his son was treated poorly at the military stress center. He said his son had e-mailed his wife, calling two recent days the worst in his life. "I hate what that boy did," the elder Russell said. "He thought it was justified. That's never a solution." He said his son felt like "his life was over as far as he was concerned. He lived for the military."

John Russell began his active military service after a divorce and a series of minor criminal scrapes in his hometown, according to records in Grayson County, Texas. His ex-wife obtained a temporary restraining order against him and an order withholding earnings for child support. In February 1993, a month after the

divorce decree was issued, Russell was charged with misdemeanor assault but the matter was dropped, the records show. A Pentagon official said Russell previously served two one-year tours of duty in Iraq, one from April 2003 and another beginning November 2005. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak on the record. Russell, who had also served in the Balkans, was due to leave Iraq within weeks, he confirmed. During his current tour, Russell was assigned to a command in charge of security south of Baghdad. To cope with the stress, the Army has set up clinics on most major bases in Iraq, staffing them with psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers and other specialists. Commanders, chaplains and others in leadership positions are also trained to watch for signs of stress and refer soldiers to mental health professionals if needed. However, some officials believe soldiers are reluctant to take advantage of the facilities because of the stigma attached to counseling in a military culture that promotes mental and physical toughness. Last November, Army Secretary Pete Geren said combating the stigma "is a challenge" throughout American society, especially in the Army "where we have a premium on strength, physically, mentally, emotionally." However, Bolger said the command was encouraging soldiers to take advantage of clinics if they feel under stress. "We've encouraged people to do self-referral," Bolger said. "We've actually encouraged them to say, 'hey, we're not going to hold this against you, we'd rather have you self-refer ... than have an incident that would be tragic.'" Officials noted, however, that procedures had been followed in the Russell case, with the commander removing his weapon and referring him to mental health professionals.





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PG-13	OBSESSED	daily: 5:05 matinee: 12:25	7:25 2:45	9:45 late show: 12:00	
PG-13	STAR TREK XI	daily: 6:05 matinee: 12:50	8:40 3:30	late show: 11:20	NEW
PG	HANNAH MONTANA	daily: 4:55 matinee: 12:20	2:40	late show:	
PG-13	GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST	daily: 7:10 matinee:	9:30	late show: 15:55	NEW
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PG-13	FIGHTING	daily: 7:50 matinee:	10:00	late show: 12:20	NEW
PG-13	X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE	daily: 5:15 matinee: 12:30	7:30 2:55	9:50 late show: 12:10	

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Ann Njogu from the Centre for Rights Education and Awareness and one of the organisers of the Kenyan sex ban speak to reporters, Thursday, April 30, 2009 in Nairobi. Thousands of Kenyan women vowed Wednesday to begin a weeklong sex strike to try to protest their country's bickering leadership, which they say threatens to revive the bloody chaos that convulsed this African country last year. Leaders from Kenya's largest and oldest group dedicated to women's rights, the Women's Development Organization, said they hope the boycott will persuade men to pressure the government to make peace. Eleven women's groups are participating in the strike. The groups have also called on the wives of President Mwai Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga to abstain. It was not clear how either wife responded to the request.

Associated Press

US worried Kenya may return to violence

TOM ODULA

Associated Press Writer

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — President Barack Obama's administration is worried that friction between rival parties in Kenya's coalition government could lead to violence similar to that which nearly tore the country apart last year, the top U.S. diplomat for Africa said Tuesday.

In recent weeks, the parties in the coalition government have sniped at each other with increasing frequency. A minister allied to the president has resigned, saying she was frustrated in her push for reforms. And meetings on how to manage the coalition have been aborted.

Obama's father was born in Kenya. The president last visited the East African nation in 2006.

"Political tensions must not be allowed to turn to political crisis and political crisis must not be allowed to turn into violence," said Johnnie Carson, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs.

He spoke to journalists after holding separate meetings with President Mwai Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga, who lead rival parties within the government.

"Our serious concern is to see the Kenyan people get the governance that they want," said Michelle D. Gavin, an aide to Obama, referring to public clamor for the government to fight corruption and reform the police and judiciary. Gavin, who is accompanying Carson on his Kenya trip, is a senior director for African affairs at the White House. Kibaki's presidential press service said in a statement the Kenyan leader told Carson the coalition government was committed to reform and will get the consensus needed to ensure the country gets a new constitution, something for which ordinary Kenyans have lobbied for years.

Carson was making his first trip to Africa since taking office last week.

Kibaki and Odinga signed a power sharing deal in

February 2008 after a deadly dispute over presidential results left more than 1,000 people dead. □

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UK opposition lawmakers to repay expenses



Leader of Britain's, Conservative opposition party David Cameron speaking to the media in London, Tuesday, May 12, 2009.

Associated Press

NANCY ZUCKERBROD

Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Britain's primary opposition leader banned members of his party Tuesday from filing expense claims for food and household items amid public outrage after lawmakers sought reimbursements for items such as swimming pool construction and tennis court upkeep. Conservative David Cameron said his party's lawmakers would reimburse the taxpayers for expenses deemed inappropriate, such as chandeliers, sleigh beds and manure. The Conservative Party leader said that the public could not abide by the expenditures, even though they were technically allowed under the complicated system for claiming household costs. "Politicians have done things that are unethical and wrong," Cameron said during a news conference. "I am completely appalled."

Details of lawmakers' expenses has been published over the past days in Britain's Daily Telegraph newspaper, creating a steady drip of embarrassing revelations about how lawmakers cash in on the taxpayer.

The ruling Labour Party's membership has also been taken to task for claiming cat food, eyeliner and cookies on their expense forms and details of the expenses claimed by members of Britain's smallest major party, the Liberal Democrats, are due to be published Wednesday.

Though the expense forms were due to be revealed in July, the Telegraph secured a

copy of the details, riveting the country for days and putting the country's politicians on the defensive.

Cabinet minister Hazel Blears, criticized for making tens of thousands of pounds (dollars) — tax free — by selling a home she was using public money to keep up, appeared before the cameras holding up a check and promising reimburse the taxpayer for money critics say she made dishonestly. All the while, she

insisted she had done nothing wrong.

"I'd never knowingly do anything to let down the people I serve, and I've been affected personally by what people have been telling me in the past couple of days," she said. "I see people are really, really angry about this so I have decided to send this check."

Tuesday's report included claims for swimming pool upkeep, home furnishings, housekeeper costs — and a bill for clearing a moat at a manor. The lawmaker alleged to have expensed the moat clearing, David Hogg, denied the allegation.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown has pledged to reform the expenses system, but Cameron appears set to discipline lawmakers who've made excessive claims — saying if they didn't abide by the new rules they would not be welcome in the party.

"From now on I want them to claim what is reasonable to do

their job, not the maximum they can get away with," Cameron said. He also said Conservatives would be required to publish expense claims on the Internet. Brown echoed his opponent late Tuesday, saying that "extreme" action was needed to restore public trust in politicians.

He said he was pushing for an independent review of every claim made over the past four years.

"What we have got to do is restore public trust, to restore people's faith that politicians are worthy of their trust," Brown said.

A poll published Tuesday suggested that trust was fraying, with support for Labour and Conservatives falling in favor of the Liberal Democrats and other parties.

Pollster Populus interviewed 1,504 adults between May 8 and 10. The pollster did not give a margin of error, but surveys of that size usually have a margin of error of about plus or minus 3 percent.

British lawmakers had long refused to offer itemized receipts for their claims on public money, until a recent ruling ordered them to make the details known. About 2 million receipts for claims by British legislators will be published in July under the ruling, but the Daily Telegraph said last week it had obtained the material ahead of its planned release.

While parliamentary guidelines don't ban any specific items under lawmaker expenses — the rules say expenses should relate to parliamentary work and shouldn't damage the Parliament's reputation.

Critics complain the rules are being stretched and that the expenses aren't independently audited.

Scotland Yard has been asked to investigate whether any of the alleged misuse of expenses crosses amount to criminal wrongdoing. The force says it is considering the requests but that no investigation is under way. □

Lawmakers adopt bill to punish Internet piracy

EMMANUEL GEORGES-PICOT

Associated Press Writer

PARIS (AP) — French lawmakers in the lower house on Tuesday passed a bill that would cut the Internet connections of those who repeatedly download music and films illegally, creating what may be the first government agency to track and punish online pirates.

The bill passed 296 to 233 in a show of force by President Nicolas Sarkozy's governing conservatives after an initial failure last month.

The Senate was likely to definitively pass the measure Wednesday. But even then, the battle will be far from over.

The bill defies a European Parliament measure passed last week prohibiting EU governments from cutting off a user's Internet connection without first passing through a court of law. That still needs a final stamp after negotiations with the European Council.

The legislation by Sarkozy's government is hotly opposed by the rival Socialists as well as militants who claim that it will quash freedoms by denying accused Internet pirates the right to challenge the charges against them. Others fear it will pave the way for Big Brother-style intrusions by the government into citizens' private lives.

But international music labels, film distributors and artists have hailed the bill as a decisive step in combatting online piracy in France, where CD and DVD sales have plummeted 60 percent in the past six years.

The measure, sponsored by Culture Minister Christine Albanel, would introduce a "graduated riposte" for those pirating music and films. Warnings to culprits would begin with two e-mails followed by a certified letter. If the piracy continues within the following year, Internet access could be cut for a period of two months to a year — while the user keeps paying for the



French Culture Minister Christine Albanel is seen at the French National Assembly in Paris, Tuesday, May 12, 2009, before the vote of a law who creates a government agency to track and punish those who pirate music and film on the Internet and cut off the Internet connections of people who make illegal downloads. The bill passed 296 to 233 in a show of force by President Nicolas Sarkozy's governing conservatives after an initial failure last month.

Associated Press

service.

The bill would create a government agency to sanction offenders, leaving monitoring efforts to entertainment industry watchdogs.

Legal experts say such an agency could be the first of its kind in the world, noting that the French bill also represents the first time a government has threatened to sever Internet connections in the battle against online piracy. □

Guatemala asks for UN probe into lawyer killing

JUAN CARLOS LLORCA

Associated Press Writer

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)

— A slain man's videotaped and posthumously broadcast accusation that President Alvaro Colom ordered his murder threw Guatemala into an uproar Tuesday and prompted government calls for a U.N. agency and the FBI to investigate the killing.

Colom vehemently denied the allegations made in a videotape left by lawyer Rodrigo Rosenberg, who was shot to death by unidentified assailants while riding his bicycle Sunday. But opposition lawmakers called for Colom to step aside while the killing is investigated.

"If you are watching this message, it is because I was assassinated by President Alvaro Colom with help from Gustavo Alejos," the president's secretary, Rosenberg said in the video distributed at his funeral on

Monday.

Guatemala City newspaper Prensa Libre said the recording "has created the greatest political crisis for this democracy, because never before has a democratically elected president been accused of murder."

Television stations repeatedly aired the video and so many people watched it on Guatemalan Internet sites that some temporarily collapsed. More than 5,300 people joined a Facebook group called "Guatemalans for the dismissal of Alvaro Colom." On the video, Rosenberg says officials might want to kill him because he represented businessman Khalil Musa, who was slain in March along with his daughter. The lawyer is heard saying that Musa, who had been named to the board of the Guatemala's Rural Development Bank, was killed for refusing to get involved in purported illicit transactions at

the bank.

The Guatemalan government is the majority shareholder in the bank.

Rosenberg said the alleged illicit transactions "range from money laundering to the embezzlement of public funds and nonexistent programs operated by first lady Sandra de Colom, as well as the financing of front companies used by drug traffickers."

Luis Mendizabal, a friend of Rosenberg, said he distributed 150 copies of the video that the slain lawyer had given him while he was alive.

The center-left Colom — who took office in January — went on national television to dismiss the accusations and demand an outside investigation.

"First of all, I am not a murderer. Second, I am not a drug trafficker, and everything he says there is totally senseless," Colom said.

He said his government has



In this image taken from an undated videotape provided by El Periodico de Guatemala, Lawyer Rodrigo Rosenberg, who was slain by gunmen in Guatemala City, May 10, 2009, alleges that Guatemala's President Alvaro Colom wanted him killed.

Associated Press

requested the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala to investigate "to clear up this matter." The U.N. commission was created in 2007 to clean up corruption in Guatemala.

Colom said he also talked to U.S. ambassador Stephen McFarland to ask the FBI to probe Rosenberg's slaying. The U.S. embassy did not confirm this request nor said if the FBI would participate in the investigation.

Otto Perez, secretary-general of the leading opposition faction, the Patriot Party,

called on Colom to step aside during the investigation.

Outside the presidential palace, family and friends of Rosenberg protested his killing.

Helen Mack, a human rights activist and director of the Myrna Mack Foundation, said the accusation moves the country toward an institutional crisis. "Congress, the supreme court, the constitutional court and all the other institutions are being questioned, and now there emerges this serious allegation against the executive in chief." □

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NHL Playoffs

Kane, Toews help Blackhawks advance to finals



Chicago Blackhawks goalie Nikolai Khabibulin (39), of Russia, celebrates with Brent Seabrook, left, and Martin Havlat, right, after the Blackhawks defeated the Vancouver Canucks 7-5 in Game 6 of the NHL Western Conference semifinal hockey series, Monday, May 11, 2009, in Chicago.

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Patrick Kane scored three times and Jonathan Toews had the go-ahead goal in a frantic final period Monday as the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Vancouver Canucks 7-5 to win the NHL Western Conference semifinal series 4-2.

Chicago's quick, talented team will make the franchise's first appearance in the conference finals since 1995. And fittingly it was the two young stars, Kane and Toews, leading the way before a roaring crowd at the United Center.

When Chicago's Troy Brouwer was called for goaltender interference with just under 8 minutes remaining, Daniel Sedin scored quickly with a shot from the left circle that put the Canucks ahead 5-4.

Kane responded. He got a puck from behind the net and then maneuvered to the side and put a shot under Roberto

Luongo to tie the game at 5.

Then, 49 seconds later on a power play, Toews worked around the side and tried to pass across the crease to Patrick Sharp. But the puck deflected in off Vancouver's Alexander Edler with 6:11 left.

Kane capped his hat trick with a hard back-hander past Luongo with 3:43 remaining. Chicago's Nikolai Khabibulin made 33 saves and Luongo 23.

Capitals 5, Penguins 4

At Pittsburgh, David Steckel scored on a deflection of a Brooks Laich's shot as Washington finally won an overtime playoff game, beating Pittsburgh to force a Game 7 in the Eastern Conference semifinals.

The Capitals, losers of their seven previous overtime games, couldn't hold a 4-3 lead late in regulation when

Sidney Crosby scored, but made up for it when Steckel went to the net immediately after winning a faceoff. Laich wristed the puck on net from the right circle and Steckel put it past Marc-Andre Fleury 6:22 into the overtime.

The game before, Steckel couldn't score into an open net early in overtime and the Penguins won 4-3 in Washington on Evgeni Malkin's goal to take a 3-2 lead into the potential closeout game on Monday. Instead, Game 7 will be Wednesday night in Washington.

It was the third overtime game of the series, the most in any round of these NHL playoffs. Pittsburgh won the first two, both on deflections off Capitals defensemen.

Pittsburgh had won eight of its previous nine overtime games and had been 7-1 against the Capitals in OT. □



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NBA Plaoffs

James scores 27 as Cavs win 84-74, sweep Hawks

ATLANTA (AP) — LeBron James scored 27 points and had the last word with a heckling fan at courtside as the Cleveland Cavaliers finished off the Atlanta Hawks 84-74 Monday to win the NBA second-round series in four straight games.

Delonte West and Mo Williams showed Cleveland isn't just a one-man team, hitting huge shots down the stretch as the Cavaliers managed to extend their NBA-record streak of double-digit playoff wins to eight in a row.

Cleveland, which also swept Detroit in the opening round, will face either Boston or Orlando in the Eastern Conference finals.

No matter the opponent, the Cavaliers will be a lot more rested. The Celtics-Magic series is tied 2-2 and will last at least through Thursday, while the top seed heads back to Ohio to relax for a few days before opening the next round at home.

After scoring 47 points in Game 3, James struggled with his jumper in this one. Still, he came through with the Cavaliers facing their first serious challenge of the playoffs.

With the Cavaliers leading by just four, 66-62, James hit a towering 3-pointer with 6 1/2 minutes to go, lingering at the arc to pose with his right hand extended toward the arena roof.

The Hawks were still hanging around, trailing 76-72, when James drove right past Zaza Pachulia and laid it in despite getting hacked. He tacked on the free throw to complete the three-point play with 2:03 remaining.

Finally, after drawing the usual double-team, James dished off to an open Williams, who sank the clinching 3-

pointer with 52 seconds left. The Hawks called timeout, their only way to extend the season, but James hovered near the middle of the court, just staring at the fan in the garish green shirt and orange pants who'd been riding him all game.

Mavericks 119, Nuggets 117

At Dallas, Dirk Nowitzki scored 19 of his 44 points in the fourth quarter, including a high-arching shot with 1:05 left that put Dallas ahead for good on their way to a victory over Denver that extending this second-round series to a fifth game with the Nuggets leading 3-1.

Carmelo Anthony scored a career playoff-best 41 points and hit a 3-pointer with 3.1 seconds left from nearly the exact spot as his winning basket in the previous game, only this time it left Denver a point short of a tie.

Dallas' Jason Terry made a free throw with 1.1 seconds left, then missed another — perhaps intentionally — because Anthony got the rebound but didn't have a timeout left to call or enough time to get off a 90-foot heave.

The buzzer sounded and confetti fell as the teams left the court, knowing they will meet again Wednesday night in Denver. The scene was a little calmer than after the end of Game 3, although it may also wind up getting reviewed by the league office because Denver's Kenyon Martin clearly exchanged words with Dallas owner Mark Cuban.

Denver led by 14 and was scoring at will when Anthony tangled arms with Dallas' Antoine Wright. It was like an alarm clock for the drowsy crowd of 20,523 — and for the Mavericks,

who all season have been at their best immediately after hitting rock bottom. It was a quality coach Rick Carlisle expected to see Monday night, even if it showed up more than a quarter late.

After the tussle between Anthony and Wright — the main combatants of the Game 3 finish, which the league admitted was botched by officials — Dallas kept getting close, and even tied it three times, but never went in front until Nowitzki's rainbow over Martin that hit nothing but net. □



Pacers F Granger wins NBA's Most Improved Player award

CLIFF BRUNT

AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana Pacers forward Danny Granger was named the NBA's Most Improved Player on Tuesday after averaging a career-best 25.8 points a game this season.

Granger edged New Jersey Nets guard Devin Harris 364-339 in voting from a panel of 121 journalists.

"I can honestly say it really did come as a surprise," he said. "I really had it out of my mind for a while. I was on vacation, enjoying Italy, and all of a sudden, I'm winning the award."

Granger was selected to the All-Star team this year for the first time and improved his scoring average by at least five points in each of the past three seasons. He averaged 7.5 points as a rookie, then 13.9 in his second season and 19.6 in 2007-08.

Granger had the NBA's fifth-highest scoring average this season.

"I think in my fourth year, I just had the experience of playing a lot of minutes," he said. "I could read defenses a lot better. I could get my shot a lot easier than what I had in the past. I think I just thought my way through the game a little more than I had previously."

Granger also has been invited to participate in a USA Basketball training camp this summer, the first phase in selecting the squad for the 2012 Olympics in London. He said Tuesday he



The Indiana Pacer's Danny Granger poses with the trophy during a press conference after being named the NBA's Most Improved Player on Tuesday, May 12, 2009 in Indianapolis. Granger averaged a career-best 25.8 points a game this season.

Associated Press

has accepted the offer.

Granger elevated his game in January. He averaged 34.7 points and shot 49 percent over a six-game stretch against Western Conference teams that began on Jan. 3. □



San Francisco Giants' Randy Johnson pitches against the Washington Nationals during the first inning of a baseball game Monday, May 11, 2009, in San Francisco.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Derek Lowe outlasted fellow ace pitcher Johan Santana as the Atlanta Braves beat New York Mets' seven-game winning streak in the National League. Shortstop Jose Reyes' two-out error in the seventh inning led to four runs, saddling Santana (4-2) with his second loss this season when he did not allow an earned run. Matt Diaz's two-run single off Pedro Feliciano snapped a 1-1 tie in the seventh, and Casey

Kotchman followed with another two-run single that made it 5-1. Lowe (5-1) gave up two runs and five hits in 6 2-3 innings, winning his fourth straight start. The Braves have won five of six on an eight-game road trip against the three teams ahead of them in the NL East. Santana was charged with two unearned runs and seven hits in 6 1-3 innings. He lowered his NL-best ERA to 0.78 through seven starts, three of

NL Roundup

Lowe outlasts Santana, Braves beat Mets 8-3

which New York has lost.

Giants 11, Nationals 7

At San Francisco, Randy Johnson struck out nine in his 298th career victory, and Randy Winn had three hits and scored three runs in San Francisco's 11-7 win over Washington.

Ryan Zimmerman extended his hitting streak to 29 games and went 4 for 5 with two homers for the Nationals, including a three-run shot in the ninth.

Zimmerman hit a solo shot in the sixth off the 6-foot-10 Johnson (3-3), who yielded eight hits and four runs while outdueling 6-9 Daniel Cabrera in the tallest pitching matchup in baseball history.

Travis Ishikawa had three hits and drove in two runs for the Giants, who produced their biggest run total of the season.

Cabrera (0-4) gave up eight hits and six walks in his 12th straight start without a victory.

The Giants won for the fourth time in five games.

Zimmerman extended the longest hitting streak in the Nationals' brief history and the longest by a third baseman in a quarter-century with the first-inning single. With his ninth-inning homer, Zimmerman improved to 48 for 126 (.381) since the streak began.

Reds 13, Diamondbacks 5

At Phoenix, Willy Taveras matched a career high with five hits, and Adam Rosales had a homer and two doubles as Cincinnati trounced Arizona. Taveras, who had four singles and a double, scored four runs and drove in two. He had five hits on April 25, 2007, at the New York Mets.

Bronson Arroyo (5-2) allowed five runs and 10 hits in seven

innings, striking out five.

The Reds jumped on Arizona starter Jon Garland (3-2) early, scoring one run in the first, three in the third and three in the fourth.

Justin Upton's two-run homer stretched his hitting streak to 18 games and brought Arizona within 4-2, but hitter Laynce Nix led off the fourth with a homer and three pitches later, Rosales made it 6-2.

Garland went 3 2-3 innings, allowing seven runs and 10 hits.

Arizona lost for the third time in four games under new manager A.J. Hinch.

In other NL games it was Atlanta 8, N.Y. Mets 3; Cincinnati 13, Arizona 5; and San Francisco 11, Washington 7. □

AL Roundup

Pavano beats White Sox to stop Indians' skid

CLEVELAND (AP) — Carl Pavano won his third straight start as the Cleveland Indians beat the Chicago White Sox 9-4 on Monday to snap a four-game losing streak in the American League.

Pavano (3-3) allowed four runs and 10 hits over 6 1-3 innings in his first appearance against the White Sox in nearly five years. The right-hander didn't issue a walk and struck out three.

Choo Shin-soo and Johnny Peralta drove in three runs apiece for Cleveland, which totaled 13 hits and scored three more runs than it did during its four-game slide.

Chicago lost for the seventh time in nine games as Gavin Floyd (2-3) gave up eight runs and 11 hits over five innings. The right-hander is 0-2 with a 9.73 ERA in four starts since April 19.

The last time Pavano faced Chicago, he pitched a three-hit shutout on June 16, 2004, for Florida on the way to an 18-8 record. He signed a four-year contract worth nearly \$40 million with the New York Yankees, but spent most of his time on the disabled list and had only nine wins before getting a one-year, \$1.5 million deal with Cleveland in January.

Choo had an RBI single and Mark DeRosa an RBI double in Cleveland's two-run first innings. □

Report: Ramirez had elevated testosterone level

NEW YORK (AP) — Manny Ramirez's positive urine test showed an elevated testosterone level, and a lab used a test to determine whether the hormone was naturally produced to build evidence against him, ESPN.com reported Monday.

The Los Angeles Dodgers star was banned for 50 games Thursday.

Baseball officials asked the World Anti-Doping Agency lab in Montreal to perform a carbon isotope ratio test, which determines whether testosterone is natural or synthetic, the Web site reported. Major League Baseball then asked Ramirez to produce medical records, as required under the drug agreement.

Ramirez's test had a testosterone-epitestosterone ratio between 4:1 and 10:1, ESPN.com reported. Typically, a person naturally produces

the hormones at a ratio of 1:1; tests of 4:1 or greater are flagged.

Ramirez's side was prepared to argue to an arbitrator that the synthetic testosterone was caused by the player taking the steroids precursor DHEA, ESPN.com and the Union-Tribune in San Diego reported Saturday. DHEA is not banned by baseball.

A possible appeal was dropped before a scheduled Wednesday meeting after the medical records turned over included a prescription for the fertility drug HCG, or human chorionic gonadotrophin, ESPN.com reported. Some athletes who have used steroids have taken HCG to help restart natural testosterone production. Because HCG is banned by baseball, the sport based Ramirez's suspension on the use of that drug. □

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Perú envía protesta “seria” a Bolivia por caso asilo

LIMA (Reuters) - Perú entregó una protesta “muy seria” a Bolivia por los comentarios del presidente Evo Morales de que Lima no debería ser un “centro de delincuentes”, al criticar la decisión del Gobierno de Alan García de conceder asilo a ex funcionarios bolivianos acusados de magnicidio.

El roce diplomático se produce luego de que hace dos semanas Perú otorgó asilo al principal opositor del presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez, un aliado de Morales en sus planes de plasmar una “revolución socialista” en sus respectivos países.

El presidente García afirmó el martes que está bien que Morales tenga una opinión sobre el tema de los asilados bolivianos, pero no responderá a los “adjetivos” porque busca fomentar la buena vecindad con el pueblo boliviano.

“Mi obligación es remar en el sentido de lo que nos une y evitar responder expresiones subidas de tono”, dijo García en declaraciones a periodistas en un distrito limeño.

García, un ferviente promotor del libre mercado que ha criticado fuertemente las

políticas estatistas en la región, refirió que “de ninguna manera” el tema de los refugiados dañará las relaciones con Bolivia.

Los comentarios renuevan los constantes roces entre Morales y García en los últimos años. En una de las más recientes disputas, el presidente boliviano dijo que la “gordura” estaba afectando a su colega peruano, por unas declaraciones sobre la pretensión de La Paz de su salida al mar.

PROTESTAS

Tras los comentarios del lunes de Morales, que llamó otra vez “chabacano” a García, el Gobierno peruano remitió una nota de protesta al embajador de Bolivia en Lima, Franz Solano.

“Hemos llamado al embajador en Lima, le hemos hecho entrega de una nota de protesta muy seria por los comentarios del presidente Morales”, dijo el canciller peruano José Antonio García Belaunde, en una comunicación telefónica desde Praga con la radio local CPN.

El canciller admitió que la



El ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Perú, José Antonio García Belaunde, en una conferencia de prensa en Madrid, España, 6 feb 2009. Perú entregó una nota de protesta ‘muy seria’ a Bolivia por los comentarios del presidente Evo Morales sobre la decisión de Lima de conceder asilo a ex funcionarios bolivianos, dijo el martes el Gobierno. REUTERS/Juan Medina/Archivo

relación con Bolivia atraviesa “un momento difícil” porque Morales ha hecho primar su diferencia ideológica y opinado sobre asuntos internos de Perú.

Perú ha otorgado asilo al ex ministro boliviano Jorge Torres Obleas y otorgó el lunes “refugio” a los ex ministros Javier Torres Goitia

y Mirtha Quevedo, a quienes el presidente Morales los llamó “delincuentes”, dijo García Belaunde.

“No tenemos ninguna información de algún juez independiente que diga eso. Solo hay una acusación del señor Morales que tiene todos los signos y todas las características de ser un

proceso político”, afirmó el canciller peruano.

La decisión de García de otorgar refugio a políticos bolivianos y venezolanos generó las críticas del líder opositor en Perú, el nacionalista y probable candidato presidencial Ollanta Humala, compañero “ideológico” de Chávez y Morales. □

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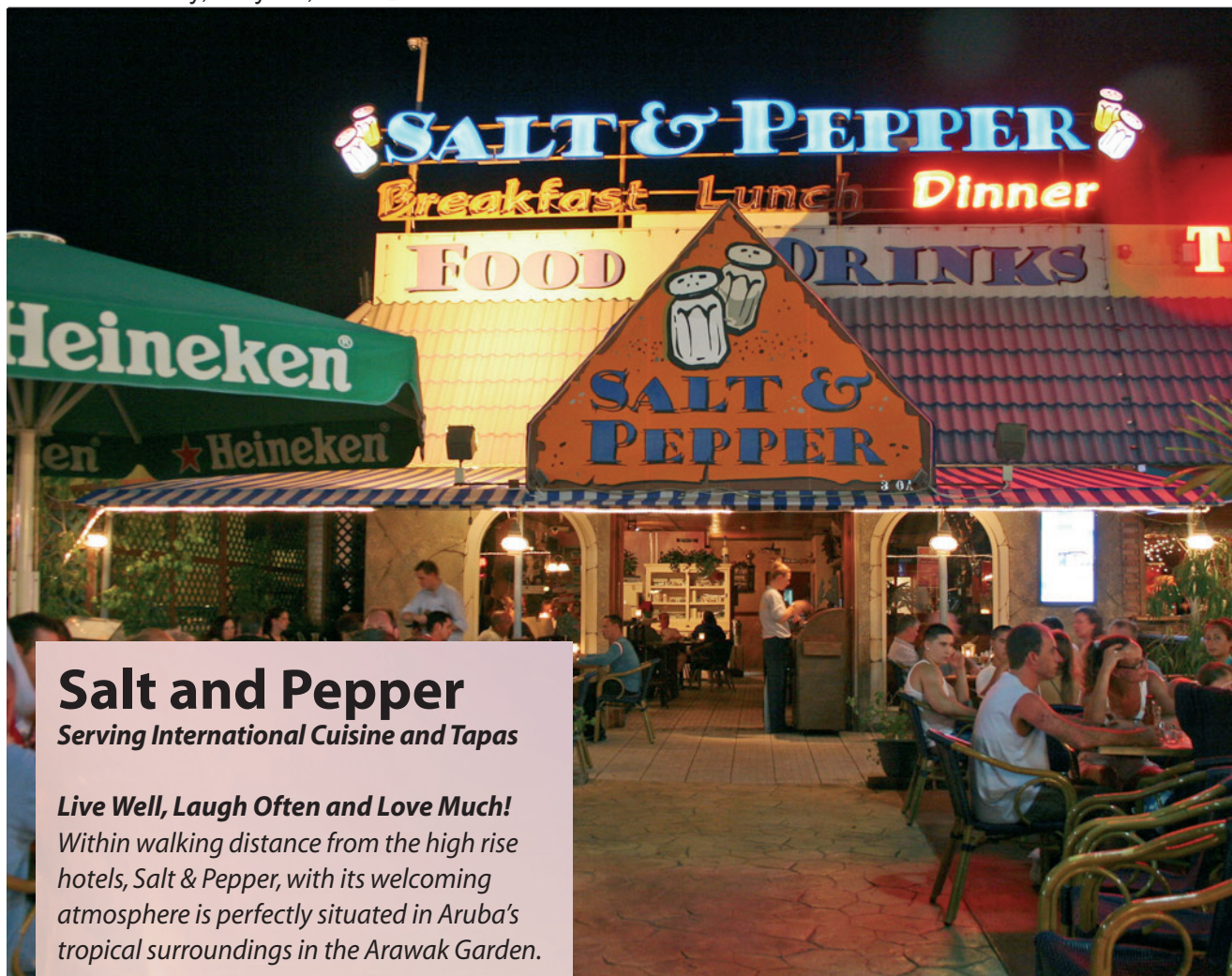
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Salt & Pepper



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